

City of Rockville Commission on the Environment
August 12, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Faith Klareich (FK), Seth Adams (SA), Steve Cardon (SC), Kris Dighe (KD), and Beri Kravitz (BK), David Davis (DD) and Tolulope Odunlami (TO).

Absent: Michelle Clark (MC).

Also in attendance: Staff Liaison Nate Wall (NW) and Mark Pierzchala – College Gardens Civic Association President.

1. Welcome, News and Agenda Review

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 pm in the Blue Crab Room at Rockville City Hall.

FK announced that Geoff Sanders would be stepping down from the Commission due to family commitments, and mentioned that there was the possibility of a closed session at the end of the night's meeting to discuss filling the vacancy.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

TO moves to approve July 15th meeting minutes as written; DD seconds. Unanimous approval of July 15th meeting minutes.

3. Green Building Policy Recommendations

FK presented the latest revisions to the Commission's green building recommendations. The Commission discussed additional changes needed before ultimate presentation to the Mayor & Council at the Sept. 22nd meeting. FK to draft second revision for Sept. 9th meeting.

Additional comments due to FK by August 20th.

4. Joint Session with Mayor & Council – September 22nd

FK said that the presentation of the Commission's Green Building recommendations will be a large emphasis of the Joint Session – what else would the Commission like to discuss?

SC mentioned more information about proper CFL disposal, including the City's policy on this. Also, the Commission felt that the City needed to clarify their policy on household hazardous waste (HHW) in general – what should residents do? Suggested having quarterly or semi-annual Household Hazardous Waste Days where the City would promote people setting out their HHW for pickup by the City. In addition, in light of the recent changes to Montgomery County's recycling program in terms of the types of plastics allowed, Rockville needs to clarify which plastics were acceptable for Rockville residents to recycle.

FK said that now might be a good time to get an endorsement for an Eco-Fair. Also, issues from each Working Group could be discussed.

NW mentioned that Commissioners may wish to review the Sustainability Strategy – EMD is updating it right now, and the Mayor & Council may wish to hear the Commission's opinion on what's been done, what's missing, etc.

Also discussed was the revitalization of the Environmental Excellence Awards.

5. Working Group Updates

Tabled for this month.

City of Rockville Commission on the Environment
August 12, 2008 Meeting Minutes

6. Staff Updates

NW mentioned that the upcoming Sept. 9th meeting would be held earlier than usual, at 6:45 pm, to accommodate guest speakers and a lengthy agenda. Dinner will be provided.

The Mayor & Council are expected to adopt the Commercial Recycling Ordinance at the Sept. 8th Mayor & Council meeting. The Commission voted unanimously to endorse the new recycling policy; NW to inform Mark Charles for inclusion in the presentation.

The Environmental Mgmt Division will likely be moving offices at the end of August. EMD has also hired two new watershed protection specialist interns. One or both of these new employees may be assisting the working groups with watershed protection issues.

7. Pending / Previously Tabled Items

No previously tabled items were addressed at this meeting.

8. Possible Closed Session

DD made a motion to enter closed session to discuss the Commission's recent vacancy; KD seconds motion. Unanimous decision to move into closed session.

Since September appears to have a pretty full agenda, NW will invite candidates to the October meeting. NW will also get mention of the vacancy into the September Rockville Reports.

Applicants should also be invited to Working Group meetings and encouraged to participate.

9. Wrap-Up and Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.